

DOLLAR DAYS THURS. FRI. SAT.

HOME BUILDER ASKS \$300,000 IN LIBEL, SLANDER COMPLAINT

PUBLISHED EVERY SUNDAY AND THURSDAY MORNING—the ONLY Newspaper Published AND PRINTED in Torrance. Established 1914.

"Twice Weekly Is Twice As Well Read"

10¢

Per Copy

Every Sunday and Thursday Home Delivered by Carrier 30 Cents Per Month (Average 9 Issues Per Month)

Builder Charges Attack Libelous

Tony Parravano, building contractor and owner of Princeton and Stanford Construction Corps, seeks \$300,000 damages for libel and slander according to three suits on file in Los Angeles Superior Court this week.

The suits were filed through Attorney Harry S. Apter. In the meantime, investigators for the State Contractors Licensing Board and the State Division of Housing have been in the field checking the complaints and their reports will probably be made at the Feb. 23 meeting of the City Council.

Less Than Penny A Day To Be Cost Of School Bonds

Most Torrance taxpayers will pay less than a penny a day if the \$3,000,000 school bond issue is passed on March 9. This fact was brought out Monday at the Torrance Educational Advisory Committee meeting by Robert I. Plomert, chairman of the industries Tax Commission.

Dinner To Honor Stroh, 14 Other City Employees

John Stroh, who just retired as Chief of Police here after 30 years of duty, will be honored along with 14 other city employees at a Testimonial Dinner to be held Feb. 25 in the Civic Auditorium.

The dinner will be for the purpose of honoring all City of Torrance employees who have retired under the city's retirement system, and will be held at regular intervals in the future, Stevens said.

Names Given

Following are the employees who will be honored: John H. Stroh, chief of police, retired Jan. 31, 1954, after 30 years and one month of service; John R. Winters, fire captain, retired April, 1951, after 25 years nine months; Ralph Z. Hoerr, park maintenance man, retired May, 1952, after 18 years, two months; Samuel F. Webb, power equipment operator, retired August, 1953 after 18 years one month.

Also Walter C. Silence, fire inspector, retired September, 1953, after 17 years, two months; Leon Webb, senior water service man, retired in May, 1952, after 17 years, four months; Frank D. Davies, janitor, retired December, 1953, 16 years, two months; William H. Stanger, water superintendent, retired July, 1951, 14 years and eight months; William E. Laven, laborer, August, 1950, 14 years four months; Ollie I. Dodson (deceased), park maintenance man, retired May, 1950 after 13 years, 10 months.

Also John W. Smith, (deceased) laborer, 1948, 12 years, one month; John H. Foss, laborer, March, 1948, 11 years eight months; Sanford G. Shepherd, city painter, September 1953, 10 years, nine months; Arthur B. Cameron, auto equipment mechanic, March, 1952, eight years, 10 months; and John S. Tolson, watchman, December 1947, three years, four months.

Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, gave the TEAC members a rundown on school progress, summarizing the status of each new school which is scheduled to be built.

Totals Given

Total attendance figures for the months of October, November, December and January were given. Van Bellehem said that 8165 persons, 1599 youths and 1586 adults, have taken part in the recreation program in the high school gym during the period.

At Perry School, where supervised recreation has been set up for youngsters, attendance hit 1964 for the four months. The Recreation director hopes to expand this program to include two or three other schools in April.

Outlining the present program, Van Bellehem said that Monday is set aside for badminton in the high school girls gym and basketball in the boys gym; Tuesday and Wednesday the adult basketball leagues take over; on Thursday, badminton and volleyball are played; and on Saturday a new boys basketball league has been set up for boys in the eighth grade or under.

Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools, gave the TEAC members a rundown on school progress, summarizing the status of each new school which is scheduled to be built.

Bargains Galore In Every Store For Dollar Days

"Your Dollar Buys More In a Torrance Store" That was the slogan today at Dollar Days officially opened in Torrance stores for a three-day run—today, tomorrow and Saturday.

School Tot Injured When Hit by Auto

Six-year-old David Rittmiller, of 1641 Hickory Ave., received painful bruises and cuts Tuesday morning when he was struck by an auto as he dashed across the street to school.

TORRANCE HERALD

—and Torrance Herald Shoppers Reach 100,000 Buyers

Rated as second class matter Jan. 30, 1914, at postoffice Torrance, California, under Act of March 3, 1879.

40th Year—No. 12

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1954

PHONE FAirfax 8-4000

32 PAGES

WILLARD HASLAM APPOINTED POLICE CHIEF BY COUNCIL

Haslam Named Chief In Unanimous Vote

Willard H. Haslam, a member of the Torrance Police Department since 1934, was named Chief of Police here by the City Council Tuesday evening to succeed John Stroh whose retirement became effective Monday.

Appointment of Haslam for the city's top police job came on a unanimous vote of the Council after his name was recommended by City Manager George Stevens. Stevens' recommendation pointed out that Haslam was No. 1 on the eligible list established for the job through recent examinations. This meant he topped the only other eligible candidate for the job, Det. Capt. Ernest Ashton.

The new chief joined the Torrance force in 1934 as a patrolman. He rose through the ranks to be named assistant chief in 1952. Prior to joining the force, he had spent three years in the plant protection service at General Petroleum's refinery here. He first went to work for the city in 1927 when he was employed in the street department.

Haslam and his wife, Mable, live at 1519 Amapola Ave. A son, Kenneth, is postmaster at Firebaugh, Calif., and a daughter, May Haslam, is principal of the Cabrillo Ave. Elementary School in San Pedro.

Column by Widely Known Journalist Begins in Herald

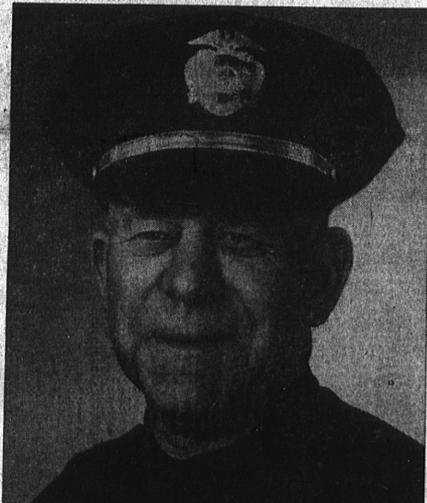
"After Hours," a column by famous world-traveler, reporter and lecturer John Morley, begins today in the Herald (Editorial Page, Pg. 6) and will be published on each Thursday to keep Herald readers up-to-date on world affairs.

Morley, an officially accredited U. S. War-correspondent, and a radio-TV news analyst, recently returned from his third trip around the world in three years, and in his travels has witnessed events that will be recorded in the history books, has interviewed world leaders who have made headlines in every newspaper in the world.

The writer has been to Torrance several times to speak to service clubs here and is a resident of Pacific Palisades, Calif. In his informative, hard-punching column, Morley evaluates all the things told to him in his duties as war correspondent and reports them objectively without prejudices.

262 Pints of Blood Donated A near record was set here Monday when the Red Cross Bloodmobile collected 262 pints of blood—15 over the 250 pint quota.

Altogether, 362 persons turned out to donate blood and 49 were rejected.

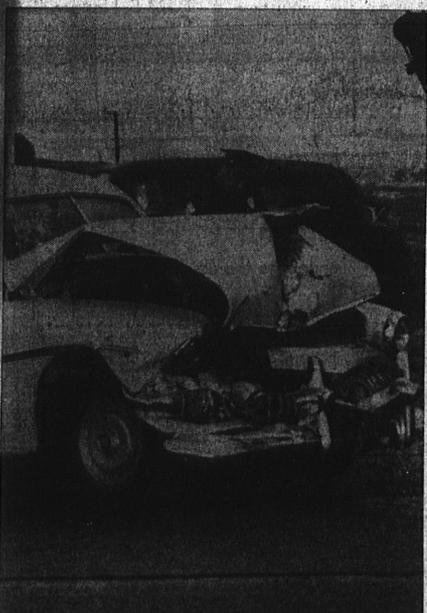


WILLARD H. HASLAM New Torrance Police Chief

Photo Arts Photo



DETAIL COMPLETE . . . Chief John Stroh, with the help of Sheriff Gene Biscailus (left) goes "1009" after 30 years of service on the Torrance Police Force. (That's police code, bud, for "Detail Completed.") More than 50 officers of the force, city officials, and close friends of the retiring chief gathered to honor him Monday afternoon at a dinner here.



FIVE INJURED HERE . . . Police Officer Don Hamilton jots down information concerning an accident Monday afternoon at Calle Mayor and Pacific Coast Hwy. which injured five women, four of them seriously. This auto, driven by a Laguna Beach woman, slammed into the rear of another attempting to make a left turn.

Four Seriously Injured Monday In Auto Crash

Two Torrance women and two Laguna Beach women were hospitalized with serious injuries Monday afternoon following a high-speed collision at Calle Mayor and Pacific Coast Hwy. Taken to Harbor General Hospital were Mrs. Mary Hamel, 25, of 4830 Theo Ave., Torrance, driver of one auto, and her passenger, Mrs. Mary Furth, 59, of 4709 Moreland Dr. Driver of the second auto, Mrs. Della Johnson, 67, of Laguna Beach, and one of her passengers, Mrs. Delphine Tribeman, 70, of Laguna Beach, were hospitalized with serious injuries. Another passenger in the Johnson auto, Mrs. Helen Mason, 64, of Laguna Beach, received minor injuries.

Military Rites Held for Lomita Spanish War Vet

Military graveside services followed funeral rites for Joseph LaPorte, 76, resident of Lomita for 28 years and a Spanish American War veteran, who died Thursday at Long Beach Hospital following a lengthy illness. Funeral services were held Saturday at Gambey's Mortuary in Lomita, conducted by the Rev. Frank Christiansen of Ventura and the Rev. Roy Whittum of the Missionary Church of Lomita. The military services at the graveside in Green Hills Memorial Park were conducted by McKinley Post 23 of the Spanish American War Veterans. LaPorte enlisted with the 29th volunteer infantry in 1898. In 1901, he married Sarah Pickard in New York. Two years ago, the couple celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary. The veteran was a member of the California State Guard during World War II. He was an employee of National Supply Co. for many years.